

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARAMA 00429 231936Z

ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 CPR-01 A-01 SSO-00 SS-15 /035 W

-----107953 231939Z /62

O 231809Z MAR 78

FM AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4181

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PARAMARIBO 429

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP

SUBJ: PROTECTION OF DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL

1. AT APPROXIMATELY NOON MARCH 23 SIX MONTHS PREGNANT WIFE OF EMBASSY OFFICER WAS IN MINOR ACCIDENT INVOLVING HER CAR AND MOTOR SCOOTER. WIFE IMMEDIATELY STOPPED CAR AND GOT OUT TO CHECK. DRIVER OF MOTOR SCOOTER, WHO APPEARED NOT TO HAVE BEEN INJURED, WAS ENRAGED AND ATTACKED WIFE, TRYING TO STRANGLE HER. HE WAS PULLED OFF BY BYSTANDERS. WIFE'S CHILD WENT TO NEARBY EMBASSY AND SUMMONED FATHER AND EMBASSY LOCAL EMPLOYEE. AMBASSADOR ARRIVED ON SCENE SHORTLY AFTER, AND DIRECTED EMBASSY OFFICER TO DRIVE WIFE, WHO OBVIOUSLY UPSET, HOME AT ONCE. DOCTOR HAS BEEN SUMMONED TO EXAMINE WIFE AND DETERMINE EXTENT OF INJURIES.

2. POLICEMAN AT SCENE WAS POLITE BUT DID NOTHING TO INDICATE REGARD FOR CONDITION OF WIFE OR FACT THAT SHE HAD BEEN ATTACKED. HE REFUSED TO GIVE AMBASSADOR NAME OF MOTOR SCOOTER DRIVER AND THERE WAS NO INDICATION WHETHER HE INTENDED TO TAKE LATTER INTO CUSTODY.

3. AMBASSADOR HAS PERSONALLY DELIVERED NOTE OF PROTEST TO CHIEF OF PROTOCOL, ASKING FOR PROPER ACTION

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UNDER LAW AGAINST DRIVER OF MOTOR SCOOTER FOR UNWARRANTED AND COWARDLY ATTACK.

4. CAVALIER ATTITUDE OF SURINAM POLICE TOWARDS DIPLOMATS HAS BEEN FREQUENT MATTER OF CONSULTATION AMONG CHIEFS OF MISSION HERE, RESULTING IN DEAN OF DIPLOMATIC CORPS TAKING MATTER UP AS GENERAL PRINCIPLE

WITH FOREIGN MINISTER/PRIME MINISTER ARRON, BUT WITH
NO EVIDENT IMPROVEMENT. THIS IS SECOND INCIDENT OF
VIOLENCE INVOLVING A MEMBER OF THIS EMBASSY IN WHICH
ACTION OR INACTION OF POLICE LEFT MUCH TO BE DESIRED.
DEPARTMENT IS URGENTLY REQUESTED TO LEND SUPPORT TO
OUR DEMARCHE BY CALLING AMBASSADOR KARAMART AND STRESSING
TO HIM NECESSITY OF OBSERVATION OF INTERNATIONAL NORMS
IN POLICE TREATMENT OF DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL
ZURHELLEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PHYSICAL SECURITY, DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978PARAMA00429
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780128-1007
Format: TEL
From: PARAMARIBO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780332/aaaabatn.tel
Line Count: 71
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 29bbd7be-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3225369
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PROTECTION OF DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL
TAGS: PDIP
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/29bbd7be-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014